

## NBUF

While others are arguing whether there is an energy crisis or not blacks are listening attentively. Many blacks may not be able to answer the very prevalent question but the same blacks are wondering about the ironic timing of the matter.

Blacks have struggled to purchase homes that are pleasant and comfortable. Many have sacrificed greatly to get and maintain their homes. Now they are being told that there is not sufficient power and energy to allow them a maximum enjoyment of their homes.

Despite the rampant myth of blacks buying Cadillacs and living in a shack, many blacks have saved patiently and planned properly to buy the automobile of their choosing. Many and varied complexes and impulses may dictate which model of auto they buy but they have worked and earned that choice. Now they are told there is not enough fuel to propel those cars they planned and worked for.

Blacks have been patient and virtuous through trying times and brutal experiences that would broke a lesser people. They have played by the rules, though others have not played by the rules where they are concerned. They have maintained a positive direction through others have directed negative atrocities upon them. Blacks have worked, studied and strived to survive and be model citizens. Now suddenly they are being told that the pot has disappeared at the end of the rainbow.

There is an empty futility that overcomes people so disposed. The irony of the situation tries men's souls. They are forced to deal with what seems to be a harsh and cruel hoax. They are almost forced to believe themselves a victim of a phantom betrayal. For people who have been so sturdy and so patient for so long, that is a testing reality.

Blacks in America find themselves at that crossroads. They have been told that they live in the greatest nation in the world. They have been told that they live in a glorious, wonderful world with a great abundance of everything. They are told that their great nation controls the action and that they are in line for a piece of the action. They have been told these things and they have believed them.

From that belief has come hope. The hope to sustain a people through trying and brutal times.

So it is with a weary eye that's wary that Black Americans look at the controversy over energy. It is with a tortured ear that's tired that they here first this story and then another. Black America can't be certain. They must still wonder.

While they wonder, they must still hope. They must hope that time and resources aren't running out. They must hope that the pot is still at the end of the rainbow. They must hope that there is still a great, wonderful life out there to be lived. They must hope that their faith and sacrifices have not been in vain.

And as black people hope, the warping plague of unemployment drags their communities, the cold pangs of death grips at the very roots of their youth, their communities stagger from neglect and insensitive indifference and the world pleads for calm, telling them a better day is coming.

And as Blacks hold on, still keeping the faith, the signs around them are not encouraging.

Sensible people are forced to ask themselves how long blacks can hold on; how they can keep the faith.

If the energy crisis is real, it is but a prelude to a larger, more comprehensive crisis. For if energy is disappearing and other things that are crucial to the world that blacks strive to achieve, then it is a matter of time before blacks read the unmistakable signs of the times and go for broke.

## Toys For Tots

The marines are currently waging a battle that they want to win more desperately than any other in their 202-year history. Insuring a Merry Christmas for underprivileged youngsters.

For the 30th straight year the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve is using it's Toys for Tots program to substitute frowns of disappointment for smiling faces on Christmas morning.

Last year nearly 5 and 1/2 million toys were collected for needy youngsters who would have otherwise gone without a Christmas toy. Fifteen thousand toys were collected and distributed in Clark County alone.

Toys for Tots has grown from a local Los Angeles campaign in 1947, to an annual tradition today for the more than 50,000 Marine Reservists. The Toys for Tots campaign encompasses some 180 Marine Reserve units from the rocky shores of New England to the snow of Alaska and balmy sunshine of Hawaii. In addition, many full time Marines join their "Citizen Marine" counterparts in the voluntary extra work that no one minds since it means more smiling faces on Christmas morning.

During the November-December campaign, brightly decorated toy collection barrels will be placed at many points in communities throughout the country, often with the help of local businessmen and merchants. The collected toys are taken to Marine Reserve centers where they are sorted and labeled according to what age group the items are best suited for. Local public social service agencies then handle the distribution of toys to needy children.

Groups or individuals desiring to make large donations may call the Marine Corps Reserve Center at 451-1462. While new, unwrapped toys are preferred, used toys in good condition are always welcome.

Many business firms have shown a great community interest by assisting their local Marine Corps Reserve in collecting toys for this most worthwhile cause. Share with us the real meaning of Christmas by helping us with the Toys for Tots program and spreading the Christmas spirit. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Marine Corps Reserve training center.

## Diabetes Month

Governor Mike O'Callaghan has declared the entire month of November as "AMERICAN DIABETES MONTH" in the State of Nevada.

Mayor William Briare has signed a special Proclamation for the week of November 13th through the 19th to be observed as "AMERICAN DIABETES WEEK" in Las Vegas. During this time, the Nevada Affiliate of the American Diabetes Association will offer to the general public free Urine Test Kits, to be used in the privacy of their homes, as a part of the ADA early detection program.

Do you know the "Warning Signals of Diabetes"?

Do you know that Diabetes is the third leading cause of death by disease in America today?

Do you know that Diabetes retinopathy is one of the leading causes of blindness?

Do you know that early detection is an extremely important factor in controlling Diabetes?

Do you know there is no cure for Diabetes?

However, diabetics are able to live long, happy, normal, productive lives by keeping their disease in control.

The American Diabetes Association offers many free services to the citizens in the State of Nevada and invites them to visit the American Diabetes Association office at 3333 W. Washington Ave., or call 628-6928.

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### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

BEFORE THE STUDY COMMITTEE:

Commissioner Ron Lurie, Chairman  
Commissioner Myron E. Leavitt  
(Phone: 386-6405)

MONDAY - NOVEMBER 21, 1977 - 7:30 P.M.

to consider

THE FORMATION OF AN ARTS COMMISSION FOR THE CITY OF  
LAS VEGAS NEVADA

Las Vegas City Hall Commission Chambers  
400 E. Stewart Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada

ALL INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

